Dismissal of women workers after marriage in Vijay Spinning Limited, Gangur (A.P.)

399. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' of 3rd June, 1985 highlighting the plight of women workers who are working in the Vijay Spinning Mills Limited, Gangur under threat of dismissal if they get married; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This falls within the jurisdiction of the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the matter has been referred to them.

Rise in Sugar prices

400. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the recent spur in sugar prices;

(b) whether it is a fact that ISMA has blamed Government for this rise in sugar prices;

(c) what is the estimated production of sugar in the current year, the actual production of last year and carry forward, if any; and

(d) what is the quantity of imported sugar during the last year, current year and the price per ton C. I. F.?

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THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The decline in sugar production to 59.16 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 season and to about 61 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 season from the record production of about 84 and 82 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 and 1982-83 seasons and significant increase in internal consumption from 1981-82 season onwards has resulted in limited availability of indigenous sugar. This has resulted in some increase in the prices of sugar in open market.

(b) The Indian Sugar Mills' Association has alleged that the slow movement of imported sugar from the ports to consuming destinations and delayed lifting by the State Governments is responsible for recent rise in sugar prices.

Government had finalised a scheme for meeting the open market sugar requirement which had come into effect in June, 1985. In addition to the indigenously produced sugar released for meeting open market requirements, a certain quantity of imported sugar was to be lifted by the State Governments and the Food Corporation of India for eventual sale to the consumers at a price less than Rs. 6 per kg. Certain infrastructure deficiencies and logistic problems had led to reduced off-take by the States and Food Corporation of India initially. However, these problems have been sorted out leading to larger off-take by the States and the Food Corporation of India in the month of July, 1985. With this streamlining, it is expected that availability would improve as programmed resulting in reasonable prices to the consumers.

(c) The carry over stock of sugar with the factories as on 1.10.1984 was about 22.80 lakh tonnes and the sugar production during 1983-84 season was 59.16 lakh tonnes. In the current sugar season 1984-85 the sugar production is estimated at about 61 lakh tonnes.

(d) The arrivals of imported sugar during the financial year 1984-85 totalled to 4.83 lakh tonnes. The average C.I.F. price